

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 00229 111618Z
ACTION EB-08

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R 102214Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5651
USDOC WASHDC
INFO AMCONSUL BARRANQUILLA
AMCONSUL CALI
AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

UNCLAS BOGOTA 0229

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: BEXP, CO
SUBJECT: CCP FIRST QUARTER FY 1978 REVIEW

REF: A) FY 1978 CCP; B) 77 BOGOTA 10001; C) 77 BOGOTA 12120
AND PREVIOUS

1. FY 1978 CCP OFF TO SUCCESSFUL START DURING FIRST QUARTER.
ALL PROGRAMMED ACTIVIES COMPLETED WITH ONLY MINOR EXCEPTIONS
AND ECON/COMMERCIAL SECTION ACCOMPLISHED SEVERAL MAJOR,
NON-PROGRAMMED EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES.

2. PRINCIPAL NON-PROGRAMMED TRADE PROMOTION EVENT WAS
IOGA PUERTO RICO TRADE MISSION BETWEEN NOV 21-23. MISSION
CONSISTED OF SIX MEMBERS AS WELL AS DR. JULIO BLASINI,
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF PUERTO RICAN DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.
MISSION RESULTED IN 297 THOUSAND DOLLARS IN IMMEDIATE
SALES, 2.4 MILLION DOLLARS IN 12-MONTH POTENTIAL SALES,
AND ACCORDING TO BLASINI, WAS SUCCESSFUL IN EXPANDING
TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN PUERTO RICO AND COLOMBIA.
MISSION SOMEWHAT DISORGANIZED (CONSTANT CHANGES IN
MEMBERSHIP AND ITINERARY) WHICH INCREASED WORKLOAD
OF EMBASSY BUT MISSION ULTIMATELY SUCCESSFUL AND
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BLASINI HIGHLY COMPLEMENTARY OF EMBASSY SUPPORT.
IN ADDITION, ASSISTANT COMMERCIAL ATTACHE WEINTRAUB
AND ECON/COMM STAFF SPENT 7 MAN-DAYS IN PREPARATION
FOR NON-PROGRAMMED 10-COMPANY IOGA IOWA MISSION
SCHEDULED TO BE IN BOGOTA JAN 16-18, 1978.

3. AS IN PREVIOUS FY, ECON/COMMERCIAL SECTION ONCE

AGAIN RECEIVED SEVERAL MAJOR NON-SCHEDULED VISITS AND DELEGATIONS WHICH REQUIRED EXTENSIVE SUPPORT ALTHOUGH ALL WERE AT LEAST PERIPHERALLY BENEFICIAL TO CCP. A) THREE-MAN EXPORT-IMPORT BANK TEAM VISITED COLOMBIA IN OCTOBER TO ASSESS ECONOMIC CLIMATE AND SERVICE ACTUAL OR POTENTIAL BORROWERS. EMBASSY AND CONSULATES ECON/COMMERCIAL STAFFS ACCOMPANIED TEAM IN MORE THAN 30 MEETINGS WITH GOC MINISTERIES, AUTONOMOUS AGENCIES, BANKS, AND PRIVATE FIRMS IN BOGOTA, MEDELLIN, BARRANQUILLA AND CARTAGENA. B) ECON/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR WAS CONTROL OFFICER FOR CODEL REUSS DURING JAN 1-2, 1978. PREPARATIONS FOR CODEL, WHICH TOTALLED 42 PERSONS INCLUDING 8 CONGRESSMEN, TOOK 5 ECON/COMMERCIAL MAN-DAYS DURING 1ST QUARTER. C) ASSISTANT COMMERCIAL ATTACHE ORLANDO WAS CONTROL OFFICER FOR 4-MAN DELEGATION FROM STATE, FAA, FCC, AND OFFICE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY WHICH DISCUSSED 1978 WORLD ADMINISTRATIVE RADIO CONFERENCE WITH GOC. DELEGATIONS WAS IN BOGOTA FOR THREE DAYS AND HAD NINE HOURS OF MEETINGS WITH GOC OFFICIALS AT COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY. D) FAA REPRESENTATIVE VISITED BOGOTA IN DECEMBER TO ADVISE GOC CIVIL AVIATION DIRECTORATE ON BUILDING RESTRICTIONS IN TAKE OFF ZONE OF MAJOR RUNWAY AT BOGOTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. TWO MAN-DAYS EXPENDED BY ECON/COMMERCIAL SECTION. E) ECON/COMMERCIAL SECTION COORDINATED JOINT USTS/BRANIFF MISSION TO COLOMBIA IN OCTOBER. F) COMMATT UNCLASSIFIED

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WAS CONTROL OFFICER FOR DEC CODEL GRAVEL VISIT. 3 MAN-DAYS.

4. OTHER PRINCIPAL NON-PROGRAMMED ACTIVITIES AS FOLLOWS:

A) ECON/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR AND COMMERCIAL ATTACHE ATTENDED 4-DAY COMMERCIAL OFFICERS CONFERENCE IN SAO PAULO, BRAZIL IN NOVEMBER. B) ECON/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR ENGAGED IN INTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOC DURING DECEMBER OVER FUEL PRICE DIFFERENTIAL PROBLEM (REFTEL C). HIGH-RANKING BRANIFF OFFICIALS WERE PRESENT DURING LATE DECEMBER FOR DISCUSSIONS. OVERALL, 5-MAN DAYS CONSUMED. C) ASSISTANT COMMERCIAL ATTACHE ORLANDO VISITED PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL FAIR IN LIMA NOVEMBER 21-23 TO VIEW PREPARATION FOR AND MANAGEMENT OF EMBASSY/USDOC COORDINATED PAVILION. URG PARTICIPATION IN 1978 BOGOTA INTERNATIONAL FAIR WILL BE SIMILAR TO THAT IN LIMA FAIR.

5. PRESS RELEASE FOR CAMPAIGN 4,5 AND 6 NOT ISSUED BECAUSE OF LACK OF BASIC INFORMATION. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE REFERENCE MATERIAL ON US TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY, DEVELOPMENTS IN PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS SECTORS, AND POLLUTION CONTROL TECHNOLOGY. PRESS RELEASE FOR CAMPAIGN 1 (FAIR) BEING PREPARED FOR

NEXT EDITION OF COMMERCIAL NEWSLETTER.

6. ACTIVITY 7, CAPAIGN 6 ACCOMPLISHED IN 4TH QUARTER 1977
(REFTEL B).

7. ACTIVITY OF MARKET ANALYSIS UNIT (MAU) SLIGHTLY
BEHIND SCHEDULED BECAUSE VACANCY IN ONE OF TWO MAU
POSITIONS NOT FILLED UNTIL MID-NOVEMBER .
UP-DATE OF FOOD-PROCESSING, PACKAGING, BOTTLING AND REFRIGE-
RATION EQUIPMENT MARKET SURVEY POSTPONED AND REPLACED BY
UP-DATE ON AVIATION EQUIPMENT MARKET SURVEY WHICH
SHOULD BE COMPLETED DURING JANUARY 1978. EARTH MOVING
AND MINING MARKET SURVEY IS CURRENTLY BEING UPDATED
AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF JANUARY. FOOD-
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PROCESSING EQUIPMENT SURVEY SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION BY
MARCH 15 IN ORDER TO PROVIDE MARKETING MATERIAL FOR CATALOG
SHOW WHICH EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED FOR MARCH 1979.
STATUS REPORTS ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY
FEBRUARY 24. MAU SPENT FIVE MAN-DAYS DURING DECEMBER ON
PREPARATION OF DETAILED SUBMISSION AND TRANSLATION OF \$5
MILLION DRAFT TENDER FOR FIRE-ENGINES.
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